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THE EXTENSION HORTICULTURIST

June 1, 1926.

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* Vacation Days? The extension specialists *
* are not seriously hampered with vacation days as *
* most of them serve only a short sentence of 30 *
* days at vacationing while some of the college men *
* serve 90 days. The "Extension Horticulturist" is *
* heading toward college grade and may possibly *
* take a summer vacation this year. *
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* The total figures of some lines of horti- *
* cultural extension work are rather impressive. A *
* few figures assembled from county agent reports *
* appear in this issue of the "Extension Horticul- *
* turist." *
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Office of Horticultural Investigations
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U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST

BY

JOHN BURNET

Plans of Horticultural Work.

Plans of work for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1926, are now coming into the Washington office from the States. Some of these plans are fine and give complete details of the work in every respect. Others do not tell very much about the work, why it is done, what its object is, or the methods followed in doing it. Here are nine headings which cover the matter pretty well and are a help in drawing up a plan of work. The best plans thus far received have used part or all of these headings.

1. State the problem.- What are the conditions and necessities or desirabilities of starting any line of work?
2. Solution.- With the problem in mind what is the solution of it - what is necessary to be done to solve the problem?
3. Method of Solution.- When it is decided what to do the next thing is to determine how to do it, that is, the method of doing the work.
4. Cooperation.- It is well to mention all of the cooperating parties and by whom the demonstrators and committeemen are chosen.
5. Duties of Cooperators.- There are distinct duties to be performed by all cooperating parties. These duties ought to be stated.
6. Goals.- Goals of all lines of work should be given. It is not only a good habit but a constant incentive to increased effort to do this.
7. Measuring results.- A statement ought to be made as to how results or spread of influence will be measured.
8. Calendar of Operations.- This is quite essential and shows what lines of work will be done during the different months.
9. State Map.- A state map with the different lines of work located on it is of much value to any one reading the plan of work.

Among the plans of work for the next fiscal year received to date, some are very good. Only a few include all of the nine items mentioned above. The most complete plans are from these states:- Arkansas, California (walnuts), Georgia, Iowa (pomology and landscape), Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Utah (landscape), and Virginia (horticulture and gardening).

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County Agent Reports on Horticultural Work.

Since the county agents are expected to make quite complete reports of all their activities, the total of their combined figures is the most accurate index of the amount of horticultural work accomplished which we have. This is supposed to include all of the work of the horticultural specialists in the counties. The number of method demonstrations along different lines follows:-

Tree fruits, 17,801; bush and small fruits, 2,219; grapes, 3,283; truck and canning crops, 5,324; home gardens, 21,396; landscape gardening, 10,228. The result demonstrations started or under way with tree fruits number 15,706; with bush and small fruits, 1,764; with grapes, 2,143; with truck and canning crops, 6,102; with home gardens, 60,505; with landscape gardening, 30,365.

Not all demonstrations started are always completed or carried through the year. Those which were completed or at least carried through the season are for tree fruits, 12,276; for bush and small fruits, 1,412; for grapes, 1,705; for truck and canning crops, 4,562; for home gardens, 36,558; and for landscape gardening, 17,268. It seems rather startling to realize that 143,097 acres of tree fruits were included in the completed demonstrations. The bush and small fruits covered 3,399 acres, the grapes 6,751 acres, and the truck and canning crops 18,854 acres in the completed demonstrations.

There were 19,475 farmers reported as pruning fruit trees for the first time, this pruning involved 2,548,194 trees. The small fruits pruned for the first time were on 2,081 farms and embraced 3,322 acres. The grapes pruned for the first time were on 4,787 farms and totaled 10,043 acres. The number of farms on which spraying was done for the first time on tree fruits was 22,131 with 171,610 acres of orchards. Of bush fruits there were 2,586 acres sprayed for the first time on 2,435 farms. There were 8,506 acres of grapes sprayed for the first time on 2,742 farms. On 8,593 farms spraying against insects and diseases on truck crops was done for the first time on 20,322 acres.

Junior work in horticulture does not show up strong but there were 1,713 juniors in fruit tree club work, 406 in small fruit club work, 186 in grape club work, 2,748 in truck crop club work, 86,626 in home garden club work, and 43,717 in home landscape club work. The acreage of crops grown by these juniors was 7,769 of tree fruits, 59 of bush and small fruits, 60 of grapes, 960 of truck crops and 1,793 of home gardens. It must be explained that only a comparatively few county agents reported on junior club work.

The number of farms using improved stock or seed for the first time follows:- 10,209 with tree fruits, 2,928 with bush and small fruits, 1,708 with grapes, 8,665 with truck crops, 4,857 with home gardens and 2,252 in home landscape work. The grand total of farms adopting one or more improved horticultural practice is 61,871 with tree fruits, 7,661 with bush and small fruits, 11,206 with grapes, 21,054 with truck crops, 114,870 with home gardens and 54,569 with home landscape work.

Proposed Field Trip of Prof. C. P. Close.

Prof. Close plans to start on June 7 on a horticultural extension trip to the Pacific Coast States stopping June 10 and 11 at State College, New Mexico. June 13 to July 9 will be spent in California studying the various lines of fruit, nut and vegetable demonstration work in the southern counties and in some of the north central counties. From July 10 to 17, he will be in Oregon, from July 18 to 27 in Washington, and the balance of July in Idaho studying the development of the work in these States since his last trip in 1924. He will then go to Colorado to visit the fruit interests on the western slope and the truck crop work in the mountain sections.

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Mr. Beattie has been engaged for the past four or five months in the preparation and editing of the 1925 Yearbook of the Department which is devoted almost entirely to the fruit and vegetable industry. The material contained in this Yearbook will be of particular interest to extension horticulturists, as it covers much of the early history and development of fruit and vegetable growing. Following the completion of the Yearbook work, Mr. Beattie expects to spend the greater part of the summer in securing information and revising a number of the horticultural publications of the Department.

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A New Orchard Cover Crop Plant.

The following paragraph is part of a letter dated May 25, 1926, from Prof. C. L. Burkholder of Indiana to Prof. Close. It refers to a field trip in Indiana last August. Two men had tried cheat as an orchard cover crop, because the seed was available at a nearby elevator and cost about one-eighth as much as rye seed:

"You will probably remember the discussion we had with reference to the use of cheat in place of rye as a cover crop in some of the southern Indiana orchards. Last week, I had an opportunity of visiting some of these test plots, and all the growers are enthusiastic about it. I found one grower over in Posey County who had got behing with his cultivation, and where he had planted rye it was tall and woody and certainly is going to be anything but a good thing for the orchard. The cheat in the same orchard made a much finer grass like stem which disked down very readily. In all cases the cheat throws up its stalk growth much later in the spring, which is a decided advantage in a cover crop which lives over."

Extension Publications Received During May, 1926.

- Arkansas - College of Agriculture, Fayetteville
Fertilizers for Peach Trees. Ext. Cir. No. 219, April, 1926
- California - University of - Berkeley
Peaches. Ext. Cir. No. 1 April, 1926.
- Illinois - University of - Urbana
Strawberry Club Manual. Cir. No. 254, April, 1926.
- Iowa State College, Ames
The Family Fruit and Vegetable Budget. Home Economics Bul.
No. 81, Nov., 1925.
Natures Tonic - The Leafy Vegetables. Home Economics Bul.
No. 82, Nov., 1925.
- Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst
Spray Program for the Home Vineyard, Leaflet 10-8-2
Spray Program for the Home Orchard - Peaches, Leaflet 10-4-1
Spray Program for the Home Orchard - Sour cherries, Leaflet 10-11-1
Spray Program for the Home Orchard - Apples 10-2-4.1
Spray Program for the Home Orchard - Japanese Plums 10-5-1
Spray Program for the Home Orchard - Pears 10-3-1
Garden Primer 12-1-2
- Wisconsin - University of - Madison
Club Root of Cabbage. Cir. 200, April, 1926.
Pop Corn - Stencil Bul. 84. May, 1926.
Growing Sweet Corn, Cir. 196, March, 1926.

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C. P. Close.
W. R. Beattie,

Extension Horticulturists.

